Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 22, line 10 with the following rewritten paragraph:

With continued reference to Figs. 11-14, the spring arm 118 regulates the movement of the ligating slide 116 relative to the bracket body 112 and self-ligating insert 114 and is confined or trapped between the self-ligating insert 114 and the ligating slide 116. The spring arm 118 is generally L-shaped and is aligned generally perpendicularly relative to the archwire slot 138. An inwardly-extending prong 172 of the spring arm 118 is received in a recess 174 formed in the self-ligating insert 114. The free end of the spring arm 118 is provided with an outwardly-extending detent or projection 176, which corresponds generally in cross-sectional profile with the cross-sectional profile of the aperture 152 and, to that end, may be rectangular or oval-shaped in cross-section. The projection 176 extends into aperture 152 in the ligating slide 116 when slide 116 is located in the closed position. The engagement between the projection 176 and the aperture 152 holds the ligating slide 116 in the closed position against movement that would otherwise open the slide, assisted by deflecting element 166 that which shields the leading edge 160 of ligating slide 116 from contact with chewed material. As a result, ligating slide 116 is unlikely to be unintentionally moved from the closed position to the open position.